

GRAPESVINE

VISITACION VALLEY

Vol II. No 7

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

July 1987

Trouble At Geneva Towers -- Fact or Fiction

By C. T. Young

At the end of spring, David Moseley, a security guard at Geneva Towers, sat in the security booth of Building A on a windy morning and said the security officers of the 576 unit, privately-owned twin concrete towers are the most insecure people in the world.

"They have weapons," he said of the residents. "They carry weapons. There are a few good people here, but believe me, the bad outweigh the good. Even when I know people here, I never fully know them. I can't ever take my eye off them. I never know what they're up on."

Moseley, in his eighth month of employment at the Towers, said he has witnessed a variety of crimes, including murders, muggings and drug dealings. Two months ago, he said, he was scanning the monitors of the building's video security system, when he saw a body flop out of an apartment and onto the fifth floor hallway carpet. The man had been stabbed and murdered.

"Yesterday morning," he said, "about this time, a girl was trying to turn a trick in Building B. I guess the guy felt she didn't give him his money's worth. She took a straight razor and cut him across the face. His jaw was hanging out. She cut him from here to here (mouth to

ear). Then he beat her with a bottle, which he was still holding as he was walking down the hallway.

The bottle never broke. It was full of blood. We apprehended him as he was walking away from the apartment. They took the girl to the hospital. I witnessed three puncture wounds on her body; they must have been from a knife. I had to wait in her apartment until Pathology (of the San Francisco Police Department) came to take fingerprints and blood samples."

Moseley added, "There is a lot of prostitution here." There are also lots of children. Of the 2,500 residents, most of whom are welfare mothers and their children, 1,000 are children, according to Vernon Long, recreational director at the Towers for 13 years.

Long estimated that 85% of the buildings' residents are minorities. When asked about the purported violence at the Towers, Long said, "I never heard of any child falling off any balcony. I never heard of any housebreakings or muggings. As far as the drug situation, well that's everywhere. We do have cameras on every floor."

Long said the building's management pays his salary, and as far as he knew the City helped out with recreational programs only on an occasional basis.

Built in the sixties to house



GENEVA TOWERS SHADOW TYPICAL SINGLE FAMILY HOMES. FIRE DAMAGED APARTMENT IS VISIBLE AT TOP OF PICTURE.

executives who needed quick access to San Francisco International Airport, the 20 story towers sit in the middle of the valley, architecturally dissimilar to anything in sight. They are completely concrete: walls, floors and ceilings. The hallways are dreary, though cleaned daily, and lit with minimum lighting. The wind is forceful enough to whine its way through every possible concrete crack and howls day and night. There is also the whooping echo of children through the lobbies. Each unit (there were 51 vacancies as of June 18) has a terrace, except for the units known as "the chute," and which border the elevators.

Linda Roland, 22, lives in the Towers with her two children, aged two and four. Asked if she felt safe residing at the Towers, she said, "It's all right. It's not the best place. I don't like living here. There's always a problem with the elevators. But I couldn't afford living anywhere else."

According to a sign posted in the lobby of Building A, rents for two-bedroom units are \$492 and \$549 for three-bedroom units.

For the same economic reasons, Mrs. W. moved into the towers six years ago, 18 months after her husband died. "I couldn't find any place I could afford," she said.

Continued on Page 3

Mayor Returns to Sunnydale For Progress Report

As promised, Mayor Dianne Feinstein returned to Sunnydale apartments this week to assess developments since her last meeting with tenants and Visitation Valley residents on May 12th.

Cynthia Moore, tenant liaison from Geneva Towers reported that the laundry rooms where night time drug activity often took place were now locked about 9:30 p.m. and reopened between 6 and 7 a.m.

A security survey has been completed in cooperation between the management and The San Francisco Police Department. Tenants have been meeting bi-weekly with Pamela Sweeney from The Mayor's Department of Criminal Justice and they have continued to ask for meetings with the management to resolve some of their concerns.

Sunnydale residents presented their demands for keeping the parking lot open with assigned parking slots, a foot patrol, and a Sunnydale "hot line" phone number which residents could use anonymously to alert police that a crime is in process.

To an impatient and sometimes angry crowd who voiced concern that the new recreation program at Herz Playground might be ignored by Valley youth because "They need someone they respect to get them there -- someone who's been there (in jail) to tell them what it's like," Feinstein defended her new Herz playground recreation program. "We gotta walk before we can run. We gotta start somewhere. We have three times more people here than we did our first

Continued on Page 4

Will Missouri Homeporting Harm or Help San Francisco?

The \$51 million lure the city of San Francisco may use to entice the U.S.S. Missouri to homeport here will be appropriated from the general fund budget.

According to the Gray Panthers of San Francisco position paper opposing the Memorandum of Understanding between the city and the U.S. Navy, this \$51 million is needed for important services to citizens, such as transportation, childcare, social services, afford-

able housing, adequate libraries.

Mayor Dianne Feinstein says that the economic advantage of having the U.S.S. Missouri homeport in San Francisco far outweighs the costs for attracting the Navy.

The \$51 million would be spent: dredging 800,000 cubic yards of materials out of the Bay and maintenance for 20 years; incentives to a ferry operator for services to

Continued on Page 10

Stop Signs Sprouting Soon In Valley

Three new sets of stop signs have been approved by The Board of Supervisors in an effort to control speeding traffic and protect pedestrians in the Valley's shopping district, as follows: Leland Avenue and Desmond Street, northeast, southeast, and south-

west corners (makes this an all-way Stop) Leland Avenue and Alpha Street, all four corners (makes this an all-way Stop) Raymond Avenue and Alpha Street, northeast and southwest corners, stopping Raymond Avenue traffic (makes this an all-way Stop).

CENTERVOICE

By Julia Kavanagh

Why Volunteer?

Many of the people who help us are busy people with very full lives and lots of responsibilities. Still more are folks who have worked hard all their lives and have certainly earned the right to relax and enjoy their free time.

Is it surprising that these busy, responsible, hard working, fulfilled people are the very ones willing to give a little more of themselves as a volunteer? Not really! One of the distinctive things that sets the people who volunteer apart is their zest for life and their eagerness for new experiences.

I read of a survey done recently of volunteers across the United States. Here are some of the reasons people gave for volunteering:

- Satisfaction of helping others.
- Making new friends.
- Increasing family closeness
- Gaining education & building knowledge
- Learning new skills (leadership, problem solving, decision making, organizing)
- Relating to children/elders better
- Self esteem
- Using talents
- Developing new interests
- Understanding one's community
- Helping solve community problems

Business/Employment contacts

People who have received help from volunteers in the past often wish to contribute by helping someone else. Most people who work in the helping professions were first attracted to that kind of work because they or someone close to them had needed help at one time or another. I also know many people who found new careers through their volunteer involvement.

If you have a wish, something you'd like to do or learn, if you'd like to meet new people with similar interests, if you like to share your talents, do something together as a family, try us! Volunteering is a road that leads to almost anything you want to accomplish. It may be a way you haven't considered. We can tell you about things to do that can be right up your alley. Of course, we'll be delighted to have you with us right here at the center, but if what you want from volunteering can best be gotten elsewhere, we know those places and people well too, and will be happy to introduce you to just the right situation.

Whatever you do, whether you volunteer for us or through us for someone else, or after reading this, you think of a place you want to be on your own, you can be sure that you will get as much out of volunteering as those you help. You will have my personal admiration and appreciation as well.

High Blood Pressure

American Heart Association

An estimated 57,710,000 Americans over the age of six have high blood pressure. In 1984, approximately 30,000 American lives have been taken by this silent killer. High blood pressure also contributes to many of the deaths from heart attack and stroke each year.

Researchers have discovered that high blood pressure is particu-

larly prevalent in middle-aged and elderly people, heavy drinkers, Blacks, obese people, women who take oral contraceptives and people with diabetes mellitus, gout or kidney disease. A combination of diet, exercise and medication can bring blood pressure under control.

To better understand what high blood pressure is, how to control it, what the related risk factors are and what can be done about it, the American Heart Association has "About High Blood Pressure: Control, Risk, Lifestyle and Weight." This pamphlet presents specific facts about high blood pressure, the damage it can do to your body, how it is treated and what you can do on your own.

For a free copy of "About High Blood Pressure," send a \$.22 stamp and a self-addressed legal-sized envelope to: American Heart Association, San Francisco Chapter, 421 Powell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102 or call: (415) 433-2273.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

On Tuesday, June 2, 1987, history was made in the City and County of San Francisco, and we, the San Francisco Executive Park Advisory Committee, along with the residents of Bayview-Hunters Point, Little Hollywood, and Visitacion Valley, and the Campeau Corporation California want to express our most sincere thanks and appreciation of your support. Proposition C, exempting Executive Park, passed -- by an overwhelming margin because of you.

Thanks. Thanks. Thanks.

Sincerely,

San Francisco Executive Park Advisory Committee

Shirley Jones, Chairperson
& Bayview-Hunters Point Representative
Jackie Hameister, Vice Chairperson
& Little Hollywood Representative
Inez Johnson, Secretary

& Little Hollywood Representative

Espanola Jackson
Bayview-Hunters Point Representative
Don Bartone,
Little Hollywood Representative
Mary Lou Lindsey,
Bayview-Hunters Point Representative
Pat Christensen,
Visitacion Valley Merchant's Association Representative
Frank Norrell,
Little Hollywood Representative
Ethel Garlington
Bayview-Hunters Point Representative
Henry Schindel,
Visitacion Valley Representative

Stats vs Facts

Frankly, I am concerned about the safety of the residents and visitors of our community, Visitacion Valley.

The incidents of muggings, purse-snatching, blatant vandalism and threats of violence (drug related) are escalating and alarming!

The community and merchants are sitting on a powder keg. A serious consequence "vigilantism" will happen, if we do not receive protection. Although we have sought redress via community meetings and petitions, the results have been most unsatisfactory. The response, "We need statistics first, our budget is tight" is unacceptable.

Merchants are losing money, because customers are afraid to shop. Property stays in disrepair

because "it will just be trashed again." Senior citizens are becoming prisoners in their homes. No wonder our community is angry and frustrated!

What "lucky" stat number do we have to provide before we have a regular officer on the beat on Leland Ave, and more frequent patrol of Schwerin St?

I am a firm believer in preventative action; however, with these issues regarding safety, we can't even get started. Programs such as Project Safe and referrals to Community Boards could be used if we felt safe to move around. What you see as apathy is real fear, indifference is smoldering anger, lack of activists are people who have given-up, frustrated.

We need help now, not when and after stats are established.

Anne Kaartunen

The real San Francisco is a city of unique neighborhoods - and most of us like it that way. Recently our residential areas have been falling victim to a de facto rezoning by the construction of larger, denser housing. You are undoubtedly aware of the amount of out of scale construction that is going on in our residential neighborhoods. Not only are these boxy, windowless projects unsightly and intrusive, they are conducive to the addition of illegal extra units and all of the problems that they entail.

Your neighborhood has a significant number of homes that are zoned RH-1. If it has not already been affected by the kind of con-

struction I have referred to, chances are that it will threaten the character and livability of your neighborhood soon. It is clear that the only way to prevent against this kind of construction is to change the zoning regulations and make new limits more consistent with existing housing stock. I have introduced legislation which would reduce the height limit in RH-1 areas from 35' to 32' (two floors above a garage) and limit maximum lot coverage from 75% to 55%.

We must work together to protect our neighborhoods now -- before more damage is done. Together, we can prevent construction that blocks precious views and sunlight and maintain our quiet streets as we have always enjoyed them. Most importantly, we can stop the illegal increase in density.

Please write a letter and express your support for this measure. All correspondence should be addressed to: Land Use Committee Room 235, City Hall, San Francisco Ca 94102.

Supervisor Bill Maher

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Trouble At Geneva Towers

Continued from Page 1

"Here," she said, "I just stay in my house and attend to my business." A retired hospital worker, Mrs. W. said there is a lack of pride among the building's residents, and that lack of pride leads to a general state of negligence among the tenants.

Marcel, 11, who was visiting his grandmother, a tenant in Building A, also complained of the elevators and the drugs. He said, "Yesterday, there was a drug bust here. In room 905. The police came and got the people and then these kids threw bricks at the police, and then the police took the kids away."

Walking out of the lobby, a man in his twenties overheard Marcel's tale and said, "Child, the stories I have to tell, you don't want to hear."

Rita Pickens, a single mother of two children, said she has lived in the Towers for ten years, since she was 18 years old. She said, "the place is drug infested, crack narcotics. I'm gonna move. I'm afraid it will affect my children. The people here urinate in the elevators. They have no respect for themselves or each other. They shove their kids out the doors."

Nathaniel Todd, 28, said he has lived in the Towers for 2 and 1/2 months, since his mother died. Does he like it? "It's a roof over my head. I wish they'd get some better elevators. These break down a lot."

In the lobby of Building A, people wait for the three elevators, smoking, carrying groceries. There are no ashtrays or trash cans in the lobby, so residents take their lit cigarettes into the elevators. On the wall next to the building's office, a sign is posted about bible study and another about summer lunches for children.

The building is owned by the Eugene Berger Management Corporation of Greenbrae, and is managed by Will Staton, who this morning was taking contractors through apartments in disrepair, on

the upper floors.

Meanwhile, on the 10th floor, Beatrice Sagarlo, as she has done for the last five years, was sweeping the hallway.

The maintenance worker said the building was generally safe, that some residents "mess up" and that "some are good." She said the problems in the building stem from the residents. "It's the people," she said.

Since there have been problems with drugs and crimes, management now closes the laundry rooms, located on every floor, at 9:30 p.m. They used to be open 24 hours a day. The garbage chutes are located at the ends of the hallways, next to the 3 bedroom units.

Though security guard David Moseley said that he wouldn't recommend the building to seniors or families, "but for those who can take it," the majority of tenants are families headed by single mothers. According to assistant manager Norman Peer, the number of families headed by single mothers represent 95 percent of the Towers' population.

In his office in the lobby of Building B, Peer has a chart behind his desk listing every unit, when the tenant moved in, when the drapes were last cleaned, when the unit was last painted, when the annual inspection is due.

Is the building safe? Peer: "For me it is. It's a job. We try to make it safe. I train the security to deal with the problems here and to be professional in dealing with the public. There is a waiting list to get in. But due to the number of problems with people, we've been investigating and screening and checking their backgrounds before they can move in. We're investigating a little harder now."

Outside Building A, just before noon, a couple of kids hang from a balcony seven floors up and after dangling from their fingertips for a few seconds, let go and jump to the balcony one floor down.

Though the Towers were built as luxury units and now smell musty, like prisons, the heart of the residents is a child's heart, dying to be free.

SAFE Helping Towers Residents Protect Themselves

A positive program designed to relieve some of the crime and drug dealing at Geneva Towers is underway. SAFE is organizing neighborhood watch groups at Geneva Towers and will provide training for selected leaders who live in the towers. The floor captains with one guest each are invited to a training session, "Motivating Neighborhood Watch Leaders" on July 11 at the Community Center, 50 Raymond Avenue.

The schedule beginning at 9:45 a.m. includes visioning exercises

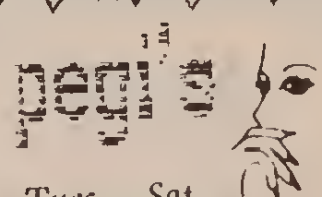
(what kind of a neighborhood do you want?); Revitalization: Community empowerment through sharing ownership; Managing Conflict; Police Procedures; Personal Safety Techniques including demonstrations and practice.

The trainers for this day long workshop are: Gwen Dilworth-Battle, Robin Barnett, Mario Paz, Chris Anderegg, Furlishous Wyatt, Donald Biggs, from S.A.F.E., and Officer Terry Lyve, San Francisco Police Community Relations Unit. Childcare will be provided.

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GRAND OPENING OF GYMNASIUM FOR THE COMMUNITY'S SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN

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Monday, July 6, 1987 2:00 p.m.

"Through the Eyes of a Child," a play performed by a Performing Arts Series for children with puppets and music. The gym will be open this summer (July thru August) 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday
To register come to the gym or call Rev. Wright at 467-6400



A* EXCITED CROWD CHALLENGED MAYOR DIANNE FEINSTEIN TO PROVIDE CITY SERVICES FOR THE BETTERMENT OF VISITACION VALLEY DURING A COMMUNITY MEETING AT SUNNYDALE APARTMENTS AUDITORIUM.

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JOHNNY NELSON, MANAGER

Mayor Returns to Sunnydale For Progress Report

Continued from Page 1

meeting. You have to mind your kids. We need the cooperation of you mothers and fathers."

Actions taken since the previous community meeting are:

Lew Lillian reported that San Francisco Alive clean-up drew 270 kids and 15

adults. Joel Robinson, Supervisor of Recreation for Recreation and Parks

Department distributed a Herz Playground activities schedule listing weekday programs for all ages.

The Public Health Department will begin a local Health and Nutrition Program soon.

SAFE is helping Geneva Towers residents to protect themselves in their dangerous situation. The meeting closed with the Mayor promising another meeting in a month's time and a strong message to the criminal element, "We want the drug dealers to get the hell out. Keep calling the police -- get license numbers," she said. "We've started something positive here. We're going to do our level best to deliver. There are lots of issues."

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Photographs by
DEBRA ETIENNE

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CHRISTINE SINCLAIR



McLaren Park -- An Underused Bountiful Resource

John McLaren Park has a rocky 31 year history. Beginning in 1926 by a vote of The Board of Supervisors with 550 acres, lack of funds, releasing land to developers, and various other "adjustments" resulted in the present 326 acres the people own today.

John McLaren, "The Father of Golden Gate Park", envisioned a great park development to serve the people's recreational needs in the southeast section of San Francisco. McLaren Park was named in his honor.

More rugged than Golden Gate Park, McLaren park offers spectacular views of the bay area. A hiker can see 360 degrees from San Bruno Mt. to Mt. Diablo in Contra Costa County to the bay





bridge, Marin hills, the San Francisco skyline and all the hills between.

Within the park confines are Coffman pool, a 40' x 100' enclosed swimming area, a 9 hole golf course, newly resurfaced tennis courts, a clubhouse (now boarded up), a man-made lake, an amphitheater, a number of children's playgrounds and well-maintained picnic areas.

A new master plan for McLaren Park is being developed now according to Debra Lemer, project supervisor for the area. "We are considering building a regional center which would combine meeting spaces for groups with offices for staff, environmental groups and educational programs." That piece of the park enclosed by the Shelly Drive loop is the probable site for the facility," said Lemer. "We intend to narrow Mansell Avenue to discourage speeders. Basic facilities such as restrooms and water taps must be installed using vandal-resistant fixtures."

As soon as the staff review of the park is completed, community meetings will begin to discuss the plans and consider community gardens - perhaps a model farm, and other recreational uses which might be required.

Lemer believes that as more people use the park, vandalism will be discouraged.

To get involved, call Debra Lerner at 558-3182.



Park's Guardian,
Officer BRUNO PEZZULICH
and his horse LUCKY.



Name the Mural

by A. Kaartunen

The word is out and work is soon to begin on a new community mural to be painted on the Desmond Street wall of our public library. We hope that many of you will watch the mural unfold over the next few weeks. The idea for this project developed from the need of our community to promote the positive happenings of our neighborhood and to re-affirm our commitment to courageously improve our environment through community initiative, vision and resourcefulness. As you will see, a picture is worth a thousand words.

The library mural committee (Jo Tucker-Muralist, library staff and residents) is grateful to the following for their support: The Mural Resource Center/Friends of Support Services for the Arts, the SF Office of Community Development and the SF Summer Youth Employment and Training Program. Local support from Mama's & Papa's, Visitation Valley Pharmacy, Valley Super Market, Leland Ave Pharmacy, The VIPs, Hawaiian Luau, Mila's Video, The GRAPEVINE, and Julie Kavanagh is also appreciated. For more infor-

mation about supporting this project, please contact A. Kaartunen, 239-1069.

A contest to "Name the Mural" is currently underway. Deposit your entries into the contest box at the

library. Please include your name, address and telephone number on the entry(s).



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Herz Playground Summer Schedule

Herz Playground Visitacion Avenue and Hahn Streets
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12:00 noon -- 1:00 p.m. Children's Lunch Program
2:00 p.m. -- 4:00 p.m. Arts and Crafts
10:00 a.m. -- Noon Table Games, 7-17 yrs.
1:30 p.m. -- 3:30 p.m. Boys Baseball, 7-12 yrs.
3:30 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. Table Games, 7-17 yrs.
Tuesday 10:00 a.m. -- 11:30 a.m. Youth Tennis Class
12:00 noon -- 1:00 p.m. Children's Lunch Program
1:30 p.m. -- 2:30 p.m. Basic Weight Lifting
3:00 p.m. -- 4:30 p.m. Kids Cooking
10:00 a.m. -- Noon Table Games, 7-17 yrs.
1:30 p.m. -- 3:30 p.m. Handball, Boys Baseball 7-12 yrs.
3:30 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. Outdoor Relays, 7-17 yrs.
6:00 p.m. Adult & older teens aerobics
Wednesday Outing Day -- Refer to list.
Thursday 10:00 a.m. -- 11:00 a.m. Pre School Tiny Tots
12:00 noon -- 1:00 p.m. Children's Lunch Program
1:30 p.m. -- 2:30 p.m. Weight lifting
3:00 p.m. -- 4:00 p.m. Art Reach Van
10:00 a.m. -- Noon Table Games, 7-17 yrs.
1:30 p.m. -- 3:30 p.m. Boys Baseball 7-12 yrs.
3:30 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. Table Games, 6-17 yrs.
Friday 10:00 a.m. -- 11:30 a.m. Senior Citizens Bingo
1:30 p.m. -- 3:00 p.m. Free Recreation Swimming
3:00 p.m. -- 4:30 p.m. Reading with Trips to the library
10:00 a.m. -- Noon Table Games, 7-17 yrs.
1:30 p.m. -- 3:30 p.m. Boys Baseball 7-12 yrs.
3:30 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. Table Games, 6-17 yrs.
Saturday 10:00 a.m. -- Noon Table Games, 7-17 yrs.
1:00 p.m. -- 3:00 p.m. Kickball, 7-12 yrs.
3:00 p.m. -- 5:00 p.m. Table Games, 6-17 yrs.



YOUNG ARTISTS EAGERLY DISPLAY THEIR WORK.

The Past-Future Students Create Work of Art

The community of Visitacion Valley has had a mural added to its picturesque setting! The mural,

which depicts the history of Visitacion Valley, is located in the Elementary School yard at Visitacion and Schwerin Streets. The project was developed and produced by students from the school and members of the after-school Camp Fire Club, under the fine direction of resident-in-school artist, Ms. Jo Tucker.

A grant from The California Arts Council and matching funds received from The Koshland Committee of the S. F. Foundation, gave our children an opportunity to develop new skills, enrich their school curriculum and embrace a wonderful feeling of pride and accomplishment! Merchants and residents also contributed their time and supplies. The Visitacion Valley Community Center acted as our fiscal agent and supported this project.

In the past, many of these youngsters would restlessly write on walls, now they've become "protective" and they are looking forward to future mural projects.

The most exciting result about this project is the renewed community interest in improving the looks of their neighborhood. A mural is being planned for the Public Library at Desmond & Leland Ave (starts June '87) and another mural for the fieldhouse in the S.F. Park & Rec Playground at Leland & Cora streets (starts Oct '87).

There is no question that the canvas of life in Visitacion Valley has been visibly enhanced by this project. Although different brushes (people) and a variety of colors (ideas) have and will be applied, the picture of our community will be one of wholesome togetherness.



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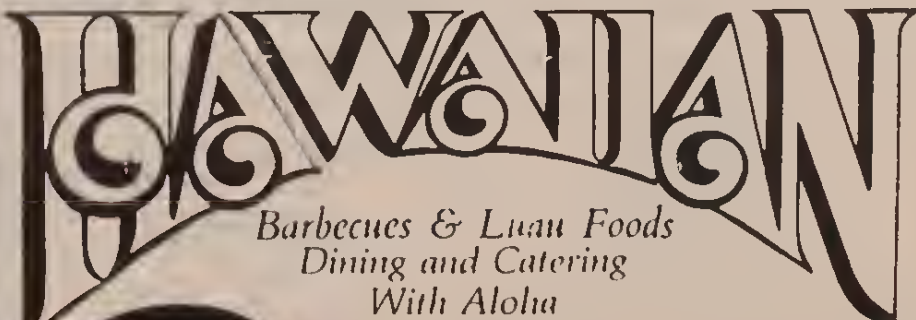


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By Len Appiano

Bayshore Boulevard simply signifies that the shore of San Francisco Bay once reached the location of this thoroughfare.

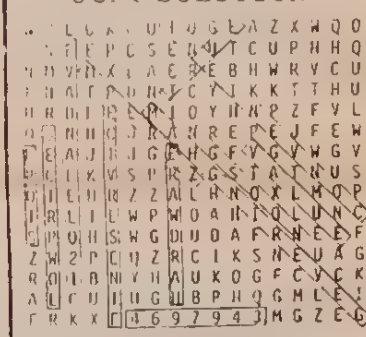
Garrison Avenue is named for San Francisco's fourth mayor, Cornelius Garrison, a shipbuilder elected to his term a mere six months after his arrival on the west coast. Garrison later returned to New York after later becoming an insurance agent.

For further information, Jewish Vocational Service, 870 Market Street, Suite 872 San Francisco, Ca 94102 (415) 391-3595

SOLUTION NEXT ISSUE

Words may overlap and letters may be used more than once.

JUNE SOLUTION



By Anne Kaartunen

trucks (very long trucks, which block off 3 cars) is certain to keep customers away. I observed one lady sitting in her car for 40 minutes waiting for the truck driver to move his truck, which was double parked, blocking her exit. Merchants should take the responsi-

GRAPEVINE DRAWING WINNERS

MAY: G. Ramirez
June: Concepcion Bellocchi

50 Raymond Avenue San Francisco, CA 94134 467-6400

Free Markers To New Players

The Vislaclon Valley Merchants Association will meet on July 8, at the VVCC, 7p.m., for the Installation of its new officers.

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There will be a hearing on July 22 at 2:00 p.m. in the Board's chambers.

VALLEY INQUIRER

Interviews and photos
by Pat Crocker

What's your
favorite Saturday
night activity?

Questions asked on Raymond &
Leland Avenues June 22, 1987



Rosanna Massimillo, 17: "I like to go dancing at "Mothers" in San Jose. Sometimes I go to the movies or out to dinner with my sister and brother-in-law. We have Mexican food in Belmont, at "Horky's." What I'd like to do is sit in a hot bath all night."



Chuck Crawford, 47: "I watch the Playboy Bunnies jump over my bed"



Roy Palmer, 19: "I like to go out with my girlfriend, Lisa. We like movies and Pier 39. Sometimes I go hangout with my buddies and we do what guys do when they hang out."

Sam Kaddoura, 23: "I go to the beach. I look at the sunset and the moon. If I have my girlfriend, I watch something else."



Vickie Lee, 9: "I like to stay up late and watch "Starman" on T.V.. Going out to a movie is fun."



Diane Boyle, 25: "I work on Saturday nights. What I'd like to do is go out with someone special and do something unplanned, just be spontaneous."



Sue Chan, 31: "I like going to Italian restaurants and to movies. I liked "Beverly Hills Cops." I go with my husband and a bunch of friends."



Ken Umbarger, 76: "I watch that stupid dance program on Channel 20, that dumb show my wife likes. Oh, "Dance Party" is what it's called. What I'd like to do on Saturday nights, is impossible!"

How Do Your Gardens Grow?



By Hyoka Bells

In the last few months I have had several calls on how to deal with different pests. So each month I will discuss one pest and how to control it organically which means no chemicals or poison baits. This month I have picked slugs and snails (most requested). Their Latin name is Phylum Mollusca and they can live for several years, overwintering in plant litter or soil. They chew holes in foliage, fruits, and stems, often leaving behind a sticky telltale trail of slime. They feed at night when it's cool and damp, seeking shelter during the day.

Here are the controls that I know about:

Handpick-you may have to do this at night by flashlight or get up early in the morning when it is still cool & damp. Remember to look every where. This is my favorite way. You have to do something with them when you get them, you can stamp on them & put them in the compost or the trash once they have been killed, or some people drown them and then dispose of them.

Saucers of beer or a sweet yeasty concoction set at ground level will lure the pests to death by drowning. I use 2 cottage cheese containers: one for the beer 1 1/2-2" deep which is set down into the ground, then I cut doors in the lip of the other one & place it on top of the buried beer container so a snail or slug could dive into the beer. The top container keeps out other animals & birds. I place several of these in my garden and check them as often as I can remember.

You can sprinkle salt once or twice on slugs to kill them, but too much salt will harm your plants & soil.

Set out objects for slugs & snails to hide under, then collect those that do. Example: lettuce and cabbage leaves, scooped out turnips

and potatoes. Grapefruit shells work well.

Lay down crushed eggshells, gravel, cedar chips or oak bark to irritate the soft-bodied pests. Seaweed mulch has been said to work also.

Use diatomaceous earth 1/4" deep in a ring around your plants.

Beetles, turtles, salamanders, garter snakes and grass snakes all like the protein-rich pests. Chickens tend not to care for them, but ducks devour them.

People also eat snails -- I have even heard of an entrepreneur in Marin who buys snails. If you use snails as a food product, do not use pesticides in your garden.

The new product on the market is Snail Barr which is commercially available copper stripping that emits a mild electric charge that deters snails and slugs.

My information comes from experience and from "Mother Earth News -American County," Bugs Away.

Speaking of slugs, S.L.U.G. (San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners) has moved into the Bayview behind the Safeway. Their new address is 2540 Newhall Street, San Francisco 94124 -- phone 468-0110. Office hours are 9 a.m. -- 12 Noon for questions about gardening.

Send in your questions about pests in your garden to Hyoka Bells, c/o GRAPEVINE, 50 Raymond Avenue, San Francisco 94134 or call 467-6400.

HAPPY GARDENING!

JULY GARDEN CARE

PLANT DIRECTLY: Vegetables: Bush Beans, beets, carrots, corn, cabbage (fall & Chinese), cucumbers, radishes, salsify, lettuce (head), peas, spinach and turnips. **START IN FLATS:** Chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, mustard, New Zealand spinach, radicchio, spinach -- as well as California native grasses and perennial herbs. **TRANSPLANT:** Basil, chard, collards, lettuce, radicchio and rutabagas. **DIVIDE:** Irises after they have bloomed. **WATER:** Regular watering is very important this month.

CALENDAR

JULY

July 6: Grand opening of Community Gym at Visitacion Valley Middle School

2:00 p.m. Call Rev. Willie Wright at 467-6400

July 8: Merchants Assoc. Meeting 7:00 p.m., Community Center

July 11: Free family day at Herz Playground by Recreation and Park Dept. Food, games. Everyone is invited.

July 11: Motivating Neighborhood Watch leaders for Geneva Towers floor captains. 9:45 a.m. -- 3:00 p.m. By invitation only. A program from S.A.F.E.

July 14: Valley United, 9:30 a.m. Visitacion Valley Community Center. Everyone Welcome

July 15: Little Hollywood Improvement Association, 7:00 p.m., at Korean Presbyterian Church 120 Lathrop Ave.

July 18: Drug Awareness fair for kids at Joseph Lee gym on Mendell Street at Oakdale. Disc Jockeys, game and information booths. Free

Visitacion Valley Improvement Assoc. will not meet in July and August. Next meeting will be September 25: All candidates for Mayor are invited to speak. 7:30p.m., Community Center

DEADLINE: 20th ea. month

12 July 1987

SportScene Camp Mather

By Frank Oddo

One of San Francisco's best kept secrets is the city's ownership of its own family campground, Camp Mather. Located in the High Sierra on the rim of the Tuolumne River gorge, the camp is a short drive to great sightseeing in Yosemite Valley (45 minute drive), Tuolumne Meadows (one hour),

Hetch Hetchy Reservoir (20 minutes) and more. The outstanding beauty of Mather is brought out by its location among pristine lakes, rumbling streams and spectacular mountain forests. Additionally, there's an unbelievable array of outdoor activities organized including swimming in either Birch Lake or the new pool (both have lif-

eguards), hiking mountain trails, horseback riding, fishing, tennis, badminton, softball, ping pong, horseshoes, dancing, singing and games. Camp Mather is operated by the Recreation and Park Department. Experienced staff personnel organize most activities including group games, tournaments, dances, regular campfire programs, nature interpretation program and special recreation activities for small children.

One of this writer's favorite endeavors is the strenuous hike to the cafeteria usually made three times a day. Delicious home cooked meals insure proper nutrition.

Minister To Coordinate Agnos Voter Campaign

Martha Simmons, associate minister at Third Baptist Church in San Francisco, will coordinate voter registration efforts of the Art Agnos for Mayor Campaign.

Claude Everhart, Agnos' chief-of-staff, said the choice is consistent with the Assemblyman's record.

"Martha Simmons was chosen not because she is black but because she is extremely qualified. This reflects Assemblyman Agnos' record of bringing young, talented minorities into the political process," Everhart said.

Rev. Simmons has coordinated other voter registration drives in Mississippi and Chicago and led a similar effort for the Civic and Social Action Committee at Third Baptist Church. She has lived in San Francisco for about seven years and is a former president of the New Bayview Committee, the largest community organization in the Bayview/Hunters Point neighborhood.

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